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| Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Scheme |
| Response to Consultation – Activity of installing a high efficiency television |

In June 2016, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (the Department) invited stakeholder views on a proposed change to Schedule 24 of the VEET Regulations for the Victorian Energy Efficiency Target (VEET) scheme, the activity of installing a high efficiency television.

The proposal comprised changes and additions to Schedule 24 of the VEET Regulations 2008 (the Regulations) which define the activity.

The consultation period, which covered a range of proposed scheme changes, ran from 15 June to 22 July 2016. The Department hosted a public consultation day on Wednesday 15 June 2016 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre which was attended by around 250 people.

As part of this consultation, the Department released a consultation paper, ‘Proposed Activity Regulation Changes’. This consultation paper also covered proposed changes to weather sealing activities and underfloor insulation. The amendments for these activities have been delayed. The Department will provide a response to the issues raised in consultation for those methods separately.

Four written submissions were received from peak bodies and energy efficiency service providers. The VEET policy team at the Department would like to thank those who made a submission. Submissions not marked as confidential have been posted on the Department’s website: <http://delwp.vic.gov.au/energy/legislation/energy-saver-incentive>.

The purpose of this document is to share the results of the consultation, detail how this input has shaped the proposed activity amendment and provide appropriate additional explanation.

# Your views

## Baseline level

One stakeholder suggested that using the Minimum Energy Performance Standard (MEPS) energy consumption level as a baseline for the abatement calculation for the activity is not appropriate, and that an industry average should be used.

An industry average is only applicable to activities which require replacement of existing old appliances with new efficient appliances. Schedule 24 has no requirement to retire a functional inefficient appliance.

The high efficiency television activity is incentivising purchase of a higher efficiency item than would otherwise be purchased. Accordingly, the MEPS baseline, which represents the minimum efficiency of televisions available for sale, is appropriate.

## Definition of the consumer of electricity or gas

One submission requested that the Regulations allow the appliance retailer to be deemed the consumer of electricity or gas, which would allow the retailer to be the certificate creator, thus reducing administrative complexity. This is approach is permitted in the New South Wales Energy Savings Scheme.

The suggested change is beyond the scope of the current Regulatory amendment. It has been suggested in relation to other VEET activities as well, and will likely be considered in a future activity review.

**Higher performance requirements may reduce installations**

Two stakeholders noted that the proposed changes will reduce the number of eligible televisions, potentially reducing installations. They asked that the proposed changes not be implemented.

The minimum specifications currently in the VEET regulations were developed in 2010 and there have been many changes in television technology since then. This includes increases in MEPS levels for televisions, and general improvements in the efficiency of televisions available on the Australian market. It is therefore timely to increase the minimum standards of products in the VEET scheme to ensure that the scheme only incentivises the installation of high efficiency equipment. This will also ensure VEET incentives are only provided for activities which are beyond business-as-usual. The minimum specifications proposed are capable of being met by a number of televisions currently available on the market.

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